

Where Products Come From, How They're Made, and the Waste They Produce

In this unit, teachers and students will develop a foundation for understanding the importance of managing waste properly. Students will learn where the products they use every day come from and how much and what kind of waste these products create. They also will learn that waste is not only created by throwing things away, but it also can be produced by human activities such as mining raw materials from the ground and manufacturing goods in factories. This part of the resource will help students understand why it is important to prevent waste in the first place, recycle, compost, and reuse—activities they will learn more about in the next unit.